



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Broadband Availability Map – Service Territory Data Submission Process
Guideline Input Session
October 14, 2021**

Partners for Better Communities

Agenda

| Welcome | Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director Office of Broadband |
|---|--|
| Overview of Broadband Availability Map – Service Territory Data Submission Draft Guidelines | Aaron Barnes, Broadband Planner, Office of Broadband Lonnie Hamilton, Broadband Planner, Office of Broadband Chandler Vaughan, Policy Analyst, Office of Broadband |
| Questions and Answers | Chandler Vaughan, Policy Analyst, Office of Broadband |
| Next Steps | Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director Office of Broadband |

Broadband Availability Map

- The 2021 Special Session I Budget Bill directs the DHCD to develop a statewide broadband availability map indicating broadband coverage.
- As directed in the Budget Bill, all broadband service providers shall be required to submit updated service territory data to the Department annually, containing the locations to which they provide broadband service.
- Submission guidelines reflect requirements of Public Law 116-130, the Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability Act or the Broadband DATA Act and Federal Communications Commission's *Establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection; Modernizing the FCC Form 477 Data Program, WC Docket Nos. 19-195, 11-10, Third Report and Order*.

**Broadband Availability Map
Service Territory Data Submission
Draft Guidelines**

Proposed Guideline:

- Broadband providers shall be required to submit updated service territory data to the Department annually. Service territory data includes where the provider has actually built out their broadband network infrastructure and is able to provide that service through a **standard broadband installation**.

Proposed Guideline:

Definition

A **standard broadband installation** means the initiation by a provider of fixed broadband internet access service in an area where the provider has not previously offered that service, with no charges or delays attributable to the extension of the network of the provider; and includes the initiation of fixed broadband internet access service through routine installation that can be completed not later than 10 business days after the date on which the service request is submitted.

Proposed Guideline:

- Broadband providers include terrestrial fixed, mobile or fixed wireless, or satellite providing broadband internet access service and includes entities required to provide the federal government with information on Federal Communications Commission Form 477 or as part of the federal Digital Opportunity Data Collection program pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6) for any portion of the Commonwealth.
- Satellite-based broadband providers designated as eligible telecommunications carriers shall be required to submit comparable data as other broadband providers.

Guideline:

- Information submitted by a broadband provider in connection with this section shall be excluded from the requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.).
Information submitted by a broadband provider pursuant to this section shall be used solely for the purposes stated under this section and shall not be released by the Department, or any other public records custodian, without the express written permission of the submitting broadband provider.

Proposed Guideline:

- The data submitted must meet the requirements established in the federal Broadband DATA Act and include;
 - Granular service territory data to the address level
 - Based on the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) unique ADDRESS_POINT_ID (or ADDPTKEY in ESRI ArcGIS) located in the VGIN Site Address Point database rather than addresses
 - FCC Tech Code
 - Maximum available speeds
 - Business or residential service
 - Latency

Data Submission Formats:

- CSV Spreadsheet (Preferred)
- GIS Shapefiles

Submission Timeline:

- This data must be submitted to the Broadband Data Submission Portal by December 3, 2021.
- After submission, providers will be notified of a successful submission once the data has been verified to be functional.
- Failure to submit data by this deadline may result in supplemental action by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Petition of Map Inaccuracies:

- Once the coverage data is published on the state broadband map there will be an opportunity for the public, government entities, and third parties to petition the accuracy of the data.

Next Steps & Contact

- October 15** Public Comment Window Closes
- November 8** Updated Guidelines Released
- November 8** Final Guidelines Posted to Town Hall
- December 3** Service Territory Data Submission Deadline

Assistance with data submission is available from the DHCD Office of Broadband and CGIT at the contact emails below.

Office of Broadband

Email: broadband@dhcd.Virginia.gov

VT Center for Geospatial Information Technology

Email: cgitsupport@vt.edu